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Field Crops
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Varietal Description of Eejay Altai Wild-Rye

Origin and breeding

Eejay, tested as Sc A 3772, was developed at the Swift Current Research Station. It is a twelve clone synthetic variety arising from three cycles of recurrent selection. A combination of phenotypic and phenotypic-genotypic selections were used. Phenotypic selection was based on foliage color (glaucousness), seed quality and freedom from leaf spot diseases. Progeny performance in seedling emergence from deep seeding in the greenhouse was also used to make selections.

Varietal characteristics

Eejay is similar to Prairieland in appearance except it is predominantly green in foliage color. A minority of the plants exhibit some degree of blue (glaucous) foliage color.

Performance

Eejay is similar to Parkland in establishment vigor. It yields approximately 8 per cent more dry matter than Prairieland. It also exceeds Prairieland in seed yield by 15 per cent but 8 per cent less seed than Pearl.

Seed multiplication

Increase will be limited to one generation each of foundation and certified classes.

Maintenance of breeder seed

Agriculture Canada Research Station, Swift Current, Saskatchewan and/or the Agriculture Canada Experimental Farm, Indian Head, Saskatchewan

Canadian distributor

SeCan Association

Recommended by

Saskatchewan Advisory Committee on Forage Crops

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Table 1. Dry matter yield (kg/ha) of Eejay and Prairieland, Western Canada Uniform Trials, 1982-1986

Location	Test Period	No. Station Years	Eejay	Prairieland
Ft. Vermilion	1982-1986	4	6919	6496
Indian Head	1982-1985	3	3215	3124
Lethbridge	1982-1986	4	4885	3949
Mandan	1982-1986	3	6766	6320
Swift Current (dry)	1982-1986	4	1348	1486
Mandan	1983-1986	2	5211	5014
Swift Current (dry)	1983-1986	3	1735	1552
Kamloops	1984-1986	2	1332	1526
Mean		25	4034	3752

Table 2. Seed yield (kg/ha) of Eejay and Prairieland, Western Canada Uniform Trials, 1982-1986

Location	Test Period	No. Station Years	Eejay	Prairieland
Ft. Vermilion	1982-1986	4	224	186
Indian Head	1982-1985	3	300	291
Lethbridge	1982-1986	3	289	272
Mandan	1982-1986	3	324	317
Swift Current (dry)	1982-1986	2	34	30
Mandan	1983-1986	1	233	145
Swift Current (dry)	1983-1986	3	164	112
Mean		19	237	206

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